

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 11, 13 to 15, 17 to 23, 25, and 26 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 18 are the independent claims. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 24 to 26 would be allowable if rewritten to include the features recited in the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 12, 16 and 24. In addition, Applicants have amended claim 18 to include the features of claims 12, 16 and 24. Applicants submit that claims 1 and 18 are now allowable.

The dependent claims each incorporate by reference the patentable features noted above. Accordingly, the dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants: Harry Hedler, et al.
Serial No. : 10/032,941
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Page : 9 of 9

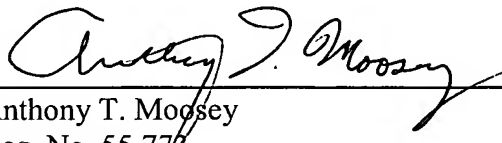
Attorney's Docket No.: 13292-007001 / 2001E15314DE

All correspondence should be directed to the address below. Applicants' attorney can be reached by telephone at the number shown below.

No fee is believed to be due for this Amendment; however, if any fees are due, please apply such fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1050 referencing Attorney Docket 13292-007001.

Respectfully submitted,

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Anthony T. Moosey
Reg. No. 55,778

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906